



Montana
Office of Public Instruction
Denise Juneau, State Superintendent

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June 2010

Montana Comprehensive Assessment System

MontCAS
Presents

Fall 2010 Online Course: *Formative Assessment for Montana Educators (FAME)*

- Purpose of Course:
 - To increase understanding of formative assessment and to help participants become skillful users of formative assessment in their classrooms.
- Participants: Individual educators or teams of educators
- The class may be taken for graduate credits and/or renewal units or neither. During registration for the class, you will have the opportunity to choose credits and/or renewal units. Registration for the class is on the Office of Public Instruction website, and you will receive email confirmation after you submit. You will receive a follow-up email from OPI regarding graduate credits, renewal units, and other class details.
- The recorded class presentations are by Dr. Margaret Heritage of UCLA's CRESST (Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, and Student Testing). These recordings are currently available online under the FAME Recordings tab to preview or use.
- Learning communities will be facilitated by Montana educators.
- National and Montana educators will present during the sessions.
- Featured presenters include:
 - W. Jim Popham, UCLA
 - Caroline Wylie, Educational Testing Service (ETS)
 - Richard Stiggins, Educational Testing Service (ETS)
- Class Schedule:
 - It is anticipated the class will begin in mid September and end by December 3 with participants viewing recorded presentations one week and participating in online learning communities the next week. This schedule will continue through the course.
 - The recorded presentations are one and one half hour in length and can be viewed any time by the participants.
 - A schedule for learning community options will be available in August.
 - Learning communities will be real time; registrants may choose a session and will be contacted to register for the learning community session they will attend.
 - Learning community sessions will be one and one half hour in length.

The Montana Office of Public Instruction provides vision, advocacy, support, and leadership for schools and communities to ensure that all students meet today's challenges and tomorrow's opportunities.

- Course text and readings:
 - J. Gardner (Ed.). *Assessment and Learning*. London: SAGE publications Ltd. (2006).
NOTE: The course text will be provided to registrants while the supply lasts. OPI will verify registration by September 1 to facilitate shipping the texts.
 - Other readings will be available online or provided to participants.
- Technical Information for Accessing the Online Course:
 - All the sessions will be delivered online by webinar. Instructions for accessing the course will be emailed after registration.
 - The platform for the course is Adobe Connect which is supported by the Office of Public Instruction. In order for participants to connect and listen to the sessions, they must have speakers and Adobe Flash Player (which is already installed on 98% of computers today). To participate in the learning communities, participants will need microphones. The Office of Public Instruction will provide information on the microphones in follow-up emailed details.
 - The Office of Public Instruction will conduct practice sessions for the learning communities and will contact participants about them.
 - For assistance, please contact Karen Richem 406-444-0748 or krichem@mt.gov
- Registration is currently online: http://www.opi.mt.gov/curriculum/MontCAS/#gpm1_3
- Please contact Judy Snow, 406-444-3656 or jsnow@mt.gov with questions.